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YOKOHAMA, JAPAN, *March 30, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that, during my recent visit to Kobe in compliance with your instructions to investigate the question of the safety of the shipment of rags from the district lately infected by plague, as to which please see my special report on the subject, forwarded by this mail; I arranged that the steamship companies carrying passengers from Kobe to the United States should establish a disinfection and isolation depot upon the lines indicated in my letter of March 18, 1900, with regard to Yokohama, but with this difference, that in Kobe the steam plant used for the disinfection of rags will be used for the treatment of baggage as well. The whole matter will be under the supervision of Acting Assistant Surgeon Fowler, and all expenses assumed by the companies concerned.

I am exceedingly glad to have visited Kobe, for I found many questions requiring definite and authoritative settlement, and was able fully to instruct Dr. Fowler and to witness his methods of work, which I found satisfactory. I was able, too, to establish such relations with the consul there as will, I think, facilitate the joint operations of his office and that of the Marine-Hospital Service in the future.

As, however, my responsibility seems, at least in a measure, to extend over the Kobe office, I think it well that I should sometimes visit that important port, especially should epidemic disease break out there or in the neighborhood.

Respectfully,  
 Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S., Sanitary Inspector.  
 The SURGEON-GENERAL,  
 U. S. Marine Hospital Service.

*Report from Yokohama.*

YOKOHAMA, JAPAN, *March 30, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that the sanitary situation of Japan remains satisfactory. I can learn of no epidemic outbreak of any quarantinable disease within the Empire.

The season is a late one, the weather still quite cold, and it is, as yet, too soon to feel sure that the plague infection of last winter's outbreak is really eradicated.

Respectfully,  
 Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S., Sanitary Inspector.  
 The SURGEON-GENERAL,  
 U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

MEXICO.

*Mexican authorities informed that plague does not exist at San Francisco, Cal.*

CITY OF MEXICO, MEXICO, *April 17, 1900.*

SIR: Referring to my dispatch, No. 612, of the 9th instant, regarding certain plague rumors at the port of San Francisco, I have the honor to inclose herewith a copy and translation of a note from Mr. Mariscal, stating that he has informed the department of government of the untruthfulness of said rumors.

Respectfully,  
 Hon. SECRETARY OF STATE.

POWELL CLAYTON.